

DEPARTMENT REPORT DECEMBER, 2013

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

- The Health Director met with Mayor Beutler and staff to review the recommendations of the Solid Waste Management Plan 2040 Committee. The information was presented to the City County Common.
- The Health Director participated in the Healthcare Panel Discussion hosted by the Community Health Endowment. Information was provided on changes in health care in Lincoln and needs for the future.
- The Health Director met with consultants recommending increased access for teens aging out of foster care. Information for the youth will be provided as part of an upcoming training for the youth, foster parents and caseworkers.
- The Health Director is working with Lori Seibel of the Community Health Endowment to review options for safety net services to be expanded for vulnerable populations in Lincoln.
- Employee of the Month - Lisa Munger – Dental Health & Nutrition Services

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Stats

	Sep- Nov 11	Sep- Nov 12	Sep- Nov 13
Pet Licenses Sold	14082	14978	15119
Cases Dispatched	5738	5890	6160
Investigation	6210	6294	6586
Animals Impounded			
Dogs	422	399	419
Cats	472	328	398
Court Citations Issued	49	102	102
Warnings/Defects Issued	2908	3493	4493
Bite Cases Reported	118	114	112
Attack Cases Reported	9	16	9
Dogs Declared (PPD, DD,V)	20	24	26

Animal Neglect Investigations	133	142	119
Injured Animal Rescue	213	184	193
Wildlife Removal	117	123	91
Dead Animal Pickup	670	556	479
Lost and Found Reports	637	676	555
Phone Calls	11772	12610	11092
Average Response Time (in mins)	24	18	21

- Animal Control licensing continues to go well and the new license fees go into effect January 1, 2014. License defect follow-ups help assure that pet owners that have forgotten or delayed their pet license and rabies vaccination updates and getting them done. The Animal Control website is our primary source for education and information.
- The Animal Control officers have been driving several new energy and fuel efficient Ford Transit Connects. The vehicles are a little smaller but are proving to be very adequate for the field work of the officers and are providing significant savings over the traditional full size vans and trucks.
- The Animal Control Manager will be a speaker at the Spring OLLI educational series on “Lincoln’s Animal World”. The classes will start April 1st and end May 8th.
- Animal Control continues to implement practices that will improve customer service. This has included having our website current and useful, better phone service and more education by the officers out in the field.
- Staff presented at a meeting of emergency response and preparedness volunteers and agency directors regarding Animal Control’s role in the event of a disaster. The American Red Cross-Lancaster County Chapter will continue to coordinate planning efforts on the management of pets during a disaster. The Capital Humane Society has also met several times with AC staff and continues to work on written plans and procedures.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

- Training of volunteer Certified Application Counselors (CACs) for the Health Insurance Marketplace continues. This month, 6 additional volunteers began the training process including outreach workers from El Centro de las Americas, Malone Community Center, the Indian Center and Good Neighbor Center.
- Twenty four CHS staff completed the required training to become CACs for the Health Insurance Marketplace and will begin enrollments soon.
- Partner agencies who provide Navigators and CACs are reported that the federal website enhancements have improved the website’s functionality after the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

CULTURAL CONVERSATIONS

- The CHS Division Manager and the Public Health Clinic Supervisor attended two “cultural conversations” hosted by Human Services of Lancaster County. Panel discussions were held with representatives discussing health challenges in navigating western medicine experienced by people from Iraq, Sudan, Mexico, Brazil and Honduras, and from the Karen speaking population of Myanmar. The discussions were very helpful in our efforts to serve refugees and newly arrived immigrants through the Public Health Clinic. Information will be shared with all staff of the CHS Division.

DENTAL HEALTH & NUTRITION

WIC Monthly

Caseload (Participation): (301 report)

Total	3316
Main	2407
LMEP	221
Cornhusker Clinic	688

Food: For July 2013 -

Food Monthly Obligations	\$ 227,785.57
Food Pkg Avg.	\$ 67.00
Women	\$ 41.18
Infants	\$ 143.88
Children	\$ 45.28

Mentoring:

(Number and school)

Students	6 UNMC RN students
Interns	

Volunteers	
LMEP Residents	2

Dental Health

- During November, the dental staff provided 844 patient visits for 540 clients. Of the total clients served over: 62% were children; 57% were enrolled in Medicaid; 2% were enrolled in General Assistance; 29% fell at or below poverty, receiving services for a minimum fee for service; 11% fell at or below 100% of poverty, receiving services on a sliding fee scale; and approximately 63% were of racial and ethnic minorities, with 32% indicating a non-English language as their primary language. Of the total clients served during November, 47 clients (100% children) were served with 83 patient visits during three Thursday evening clinics.
- Community Outreach activities included dental staff providing school based dental screenings at Norwood Park, Eastridge, Holmes, Everett, and Clinton Elementary schools, targeting children that have not reported seeing a dentist in the past 12 months. LLCHD dental staff coordinate the elementary school based dental screenings using volunteer community dentists and LLCHD dental staff, providing parents with referral and educational information for those children identified with dental needs and the importance of establishing a dental home.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Environmental Public Health Division The Year in Numbers FY 2012-2013

Description	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Foodhandler permits issued	10,089	13,188	12,795
Food establishment inspections	2301	2466	2360

performed			
On-site consultation at food establishments	255	205	244
Food managers trained at food manager seminars	315	302	355
Food Enforcement Notices issued	63	58	75
Foodborne illness complaints	44	43	80
Child care facility inspections	187	112	131
Child care providers trained in health, safety, etc.	882	878	796
Water well & sewage system inspections performed	747	912	790
Land use proposals reviewed	147	132	152
Water well permits issued	550	550	604
Onsite wastewater permits issued	139	117	147
Drinking water samples collected from	1031	918	841

private wells			
Swimming pool & spa inspections	522	502	544
Property Transfers reviewed for well/sewage system	147	180	200
Illegal dumping report on county roads	134	99	80
High priority public health nuisance complaints	941	676	416
Participants attending the earth wellness festival	3,000	3,000	3,000
Air pollution compliance inspections	172	138	197
Asbestos removal inspections	124	170	128
Poor indoor air quality investigations	186	143	119
Special waste permits issued	981	1113	1004
Pounds of hazardous waste collected from households	78,679	84,276	78,506
Emergency Response events for hazardous materials spills	133	149	135

HEALTH DATA & EVALUATION

- Flu activity has been starting to show up locally. Also, nationally there are now four states with widespread flu activity so hopefully people have been immunized as travelers are likely to spread flu during the holiday weeks. Texas, Alabama and Louisiana are three of the four states with the most activity so travel to those states may pose the greatest risk.

Fortunately, it appears that this year's flu vaccines are a good match for the flu types that are showing up (H1/N1 2009 and H3 A viruses) in the country so if you've been vaccinated you should have a good chance of protection. If you haven't been vaccinated there is no better time than the present since it will take two weeks to develop full immunity and during the holidays your chances of being exposed increase a great deal due to the many family and social interactions.

- In addition to flu, be on the alert for pertussis (whooping cough) as we have seen an increase in pertussis cases in the last couple of months. Anyone with a persistent cough lastly longer than two weeks should probably suspect the possibility of pertussis. Teens and adults generally have lost their immunity from their shots and need a booster. And, it's important get a booster if you are around infants and small children as they are the most likely to have difficulty breathing and might need to be hospitalized.
- Another disease that's always present, but sometimes rises during the holidays is norovirus. The reason is that people attend office and holiday parties at this time of year and anyone who has a touch of "stomach flu" can expose others quite easily. Hand washing is the most effective preventive method to avoid catching the disease, but it's difficult to avoid someone who doesn't stay home when they are sick.
- We are getting ready for the 2014 BRFSS and YRBS surveys by getting the contracts ready with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and UNL. The 2014 surveys are collected monthly throughout the year and the YRBS will be conducted in the fall in all high schools in Lancaster County.

HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTREACH

Injury Prevention

- Staff conducted three Nebraska Safe Kids Child Care Transportation Trainings to help child care centers come into compliance with the revised State regulations. Thirty child care workers completed this three hour training required to be able to transport children. Staff continues to promote these trainings to Lancaster County childcare directors.
- Staff presented Safe Kids Lincoln Lancaster County information and activities at the CLC Directors' meeting. Plans include assisting the CLCs with bike/ped activities, flyers

for child passenger safety events, and considering conducting Fire Safe Landlord Trainings in the CLC service areas.

Tobacco Prevention

- Staff coordinated a tobacco compliance check with the Lincoln Police Department and four youth volunteers. One sale out of 44 attempts to purchase was made for a 98% compliance rate. Compliance totals for the year are 41 sales out of 333 attempts to purchase for an 88% compliance rate. Staff made follow-up visits to all businesses that sold tobacco to minors to discuss ways in which these businesses could ensure that sales to minors will not happen.

Chronic Disease Prevention

- Staff delivered materials (water bottles, backpacks, bookmarks and Frisbees) to Arnold Elementary School for their 54321 GO! Club and Family Fun Night along with youth and adult post-surveys; and (fiction books on gardening, weekly check-it-off sheets, bookmarks, posters) to Elliott CLC. Preliminary survey data indicates that 76% of youth and 54% of adults recognize the 54321 GO! message.
- Staff presented information regarding the Summer Food Program to students, staff, and faculty of Nebraska Wesleyan University on November 18 as part of their annual Hunger Awareness Week.

INFORMATION & FISCAL MANAGEMENT

- Information Management staff working closely with Dental Program staff have completed configurations and classes to implement electronic billing for Medicaid Services.
- HIPAA training update has been completed for Health Department staff and City Treasurer's and Accounting staff.
- Fiscal Office Supervisor and Division Manager are setting up the spreadsheets needed to prepare the Department budget.